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THE SOLONS IN SESSION.

THE WORK OF THE LAW-MAKERS OF THE STATE ASSEMBLED IN COLUMBIA.

A Condensed Report of the Proceedings Taken From the Daily Papers From Day to Day as the Work Proceeds.

IN THE HOUSE.

Monday, Feb. 10.—The house of representatives did not undertake to do much business today. The session did not last over three quarters of an hour, because the first thing the house did was to accept the invitation of the local committee to have a group picture taken with the Cook County Democracy at 12:45, and then at 1 o'clock participate in the exercises at the Columbia Theatre.

The principal work was to get through the bills that were pending for third reading. All third reading bills were given their final reading except one of Mr. Prince, relative to the issuing of bonds, which he had recommitted, as he did not like the style of the bill.

NIGHT SESSION OF HOUSE.

When the house met tonight there was a mass of bills sent over from the senate. The bills were referred to appropriate committees.

Mr. Bacon offered a resolution that no bill be introduced after Wednesday, 12th instant, which was adopted.

Mr. Croft called up his bill to permit the county dispensaries to sell liquor on Sundays and holidays to such persons as produce certificates of a practicing physician therefor. After some discussion the bill was killed.

Mr. Rucker's bill to repeal the Cooper pistol bill, passed last session, came up, but debate on it was adjourned.

The house then, at 10 o'clock, adjourned.

IN THE SENATE.

February 10.—The senate was in session only forty minutes this morning, having adjourned until 8 o'clock at night in order to allow members to attend the exercises in the theatre incident to the visit of the Cook County Democracy.

Senator Henderson's substitute to the Graydon bill in reference to the Virginia Carolina Chemical Company was reported today. It was read the first time and went on the calendar.

NIGHT SESSION OF THE SENATE.

February 10.—On the reassembly of the senate tonight Senator Blakeney, of Chesterfield, introduced the following concurrent resolutions:

1. That the thanks of the General Assembly be and hereby tendered to the officers and managers of the South Carolina Inter-State and West Indian Exposition for many courtesies shown during its recent visit to the Exposition at Charleston.

2. That the wisdom of the appropriation made to the said Exposition by the General Assembly at its last session may now be fully attested by the personal observations of every citizen and visitor. That the said Exposition is commended for its beauty, scope and marvellous excellencies; and the people of the State are exhorted to personally inspect and patronize the same, in order that our great enterprise may attain the success which it so richly deserves.

Resolved, further, That the thanks of the General Assembly be, and are hereby, tendered the Southern and Atlantic Coast Line Railway companies for the excellent transportation facilities afforded the members of the General Assembly, their families and the attaches of said assembly, in going to and returning from said Exposition.

The concurrent resolution was unanimously adopted.

Senator Aldrich's bill to provide punishment for those who negligently expose children to the danger of fire was read the second time.

The following new bills were introduced:

Senator Mower: Amending the act prohibiting fire insurance companies from entering into combinations to control insurance rates, etc.

Senator Ransom: To amend Part 2, Title 2, of Code, entitled parties to criminal action.

Senator Barnwell: To declare the law as to references contained in codified acts of the Code of 1892.

The consideration of second reading bills was resumed and the following passed:

Senator Brice's bill to repeal the section empowering the extension of taxes came up and Senator Mower moved to indefinitely postpone the bill.

Mr. Brice said the annual extension resulted in many counties having to borrow money for necessary expenses and pay high rates of interest. The act is not in the interest of the poor man, for about the only time he has money is in the fall. He spends that and has to pay an enormous rate to get money to pay taxes when they finally have to do so.

The bill was rejected by a vote of 20 to 8.

Mr. Stackhouse's bill to authorize the county board of commissioners to hire the chaising to any reliable person or corporation within the county came up and Senator Brice moved to strike out the enacting words.

Mr. Stackhouse defended the bill and expressed the opinion that the measure would prove beneficial. It would not be liable to abuses, as sometimes occurs in larger instances of a similar nature.

Senator Livingston pointed out that the bill was entirely optional.

Senator Glenn said this was a dangerous bill, in that convicts may be hired to men who would not treat them humanely. He thought convicts ought to be kept and worked upon public roads. It was a dangerous power to give to any man.

Senator Sullivan believed the sentiment of the State is strongly against the hiring of convicts to private parties. The bill was rejected.

The bill to amend the income tax act, authorizing the county auditor to place on his books a list of the persons in the county subject to the income tax, was passed to a third reading.

There was considerable debate over the bill to require municipalities to provide drains for surface water. The bill had friends, but the debate was adjourned in order to allow it to be perfected.

Mr. Graydon's bill, prescribing the number of brakemen on trains of a certain class, was read the second time.

The senate adopted the bill to prohibit wearing the Southern Cross except by those entitled to it.

The bill defining the term of robbery was ordered to a third reading. The following measures also passed to a third reading:

To require public ginners to keep their books open for inspection.

Exempting ex-Confederate soldiers from peddlers' licenses in towns.

To allow all farm products to be marketed in any town in this State without a license.

Relating to the seizure and sale of defaulting taxpayers' estates.

The senate then adjourned until 10 a. m. Tuesday.

Tuesday's Session.

IN THE SENATE.

February 11.—There was a long and at times exciting debate in the senate today over the redistricting bill. The measure, as it passed the house, finally passed its second reading in the senate, with the single amendment that Clarendon is taken from the seventh district and placed in the first district. It is thought that this amendment will be agreed to by the house and that the bill will be ratified in this shape.

Senator Gruber yesterday offered an amendment which would have materially changed the first, second and seventh districts, but after a long debate the amendment was lost. When Senator Mayfield undertook to have Edgefield and Saluda placed in separate districts. This brought forth a spirited protest from Senator Sheppard, who carried his point, and Edgefield and Saluda remain side by side in the second district.

AS IT PASSED.

The redistricting bill, as it passed

the senate yesterday, arranges the congressional districts as follows:

First District—Charleston, Berkeley, Colleton, Clarendon and Dorchester.

Second District—Aiken, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Edgefield, Saluda and Hampton.

Third District—Pickens, Oconee, Anderson, Abbeville, Greenwood and Newberry.

Fourth District—Laurens, Spartanburg, Greenville and Union.

Fifth District—Cherokee, Chester, York, Fairfield, Kershaw, Chesterfield and Lancaster.

Sixth District—Marlboro, Marion, Horry, Darlington, Florence, Williamsburg, and Georgetown.

Seventh District—Richland, Sumter, Orangeburg and Lexington.

The bill was passed to its third reading and the districts will stand as above.

IN THE HOUSE.

February 11.—For several days past Mr. W. J. Johnson has been trying to get up for discussion and final action his bill to prohibit the formation of trusts and monopolies. This bill is a copy of the Hogg law of Texas and is not in conflict with any of the other incorporation measures introduced at this session. Mr. Johnson succeeded in getting the bill before the house yesterday. But there was a great deal of filibustering and no action was taken on the bill. There were several test votes, but none of them indicate the numerical strength of the supporters of the bill. By a vote of 84 to 34 the house refused to strike out the enacting words. But this was not the proper strength of either side, as some voting with the supporters of the bill declared that they did not favor the bill as it stood and wanted to offer amendments.

OTHER MATTERS.

The house by a rising vote unanimously agreed to the senate's resolution thanking the Exposition authorities for the trip last week.

Mr. Moses introduced resolutions commending the Exposition and urging the people to visit it on March 20th, the State of South Carolina day. This was agreed to.

Mr. Dean introduced resolutions urging the railroads to offer reduced rates to the people of the State in order that as many as possible could see the Exposition. This was agreed to.

NIGHT SESSION.

When the house met at night, Mr. M. L. Smith moved that the joint committee of judiciary and of incorporation be discharged from further consideration of the bill relating to incorporations, particularly in regard to trusts. He explained that these are such large committees that there is great difficulty in getting them together, and he could not get a report on his bill. He disavowed intending any discourtesy, but he wants his bill on the calendar at once. It was so ordered by the house.

Mr. Efrid wanted to get up his companion resolution to the biennial sessions bill. This resolution was up several days ago and failed to pass by 4 votes, there being 79 voting in favor of it, whereas 83 were required. There were 17 votes against it on that occasion. Mr. Efrid according to notice given Monday, moved to suspend rule 43.

There was some parliamentary sparring, but the house by a vote of 89 to 24 refused to suspend the rule. This looks unfavorable for the passage of the biennial sessions resolution.

Other bills discussed during the night session were of little interest to the general public.

Mr. Wheeler Got Rid of His Rheumatism.

"During the winter of 1898 I was so lame in my joints, in fact all over my body, that I could hardly hobble around. When I bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. From the first application I began to get well, and was cured and have worked steadily all the year.—R. Wheeler. Northwood, N. Y. For sale by W. E. Pelham & Son.

PATTERSON'S BIG FIRE.

Clearing Up the Debris and Getting Ready For Work—Loss \$8,000,000.

Patterson, N. J., Feb. 10.—The fire conflagration which burned its way through the business center of Patterson yesterday has completely spent its force and is quickly dying out in the ashes and broken brick of its ruin. The firemen who hurried from other cities to save the endangered city have gone back to their homes and several companies of the local department have been ordered to their houses for rest and refreshments they sorely need.

LOSS AMOUNTS TO \$8,000,000.

Conservative opinions inclined today to cut \$2,000,000 from the aggregate loss of \$10,000,000 agreed upon, and \$8,000,000 will probably be accepted finally as the cost of the fire. No tabling of individual losses that can be accepted as reliable has yet been adopted, and it will be several days before satisfactory figures can be prepared. Equally incomplete is the estimate of insurance. It was stated here today that the insurance amounted to between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000, but what gave basis to the calculation was not clear.

Several of the largest losers said that they had not yet had an opportunity to examine their policies, and that in the meantime they could not tell what amount they carried. Probably no fire of equal magnitude and widespread destruction ever produced an equally small list of losers.

Many of the fire volunteers and the firemen were injured by the falling bricks and timber, burned by flying firebrands or temporarily overcome by smoke, but only a few of them needed medicinal attention.

The small casualty list is explained by the fact that the people had ample warning and time to abandon their homes before the flames came upon them.

AID FOR STRICKEN CITY.

A Bread and coffee famine was averted by outside aid. A Newark bread company early this morning started wagons loaded with 3,000 loaves of bread for free distribution in the stricken city. Wealthy residents of this city ordered large supplies of coffee and provisions from Passaic, Newark and New York. The Ladies' relief committee has established its headquarters in St. Paul's Episcopal church on Broadway and will provide food to all who may apply for assistance.

The fire made no headway during the night. Fanned by strong wind it burned fitfully in places during the early hours of the morning, but wherever it showed threatening strength the firemen turned streams on it and beat it down. The firemen were completely exhausted after more than 30 hours continuous work, but remained at their posts. There is comparatively little suffering upon the part of those rendered homeless by the fire, and the armory, churches and public shelters opened their doors to but few applications during the night. Practically every home that escaped the flames was thrown open in a spirit of broad charity and nearly every refugee found shelter of some kind.

The declaration of Mayor Wincliffe that the city can care for its own is not concurred in by everybody and there may be an appeal later for outside help.

TO RISE FROM ITS ASHES.

With the embers still aglow in the business districts commercial Patterson planned resumption and restoration. All of the banks burned out yesterday opened for business in temporary quarters today and the officials of the banks expressed a determination to do their part in the maintenance of the financial standing and credit of the city.

The militiamen remained on guard today and will be kept under arms and on duty as long as necessary for their service. Much valuable property is still exposed and the authorities are determined to prevent the looting or disorder in any form. Saloons that attempted to open after midnight were promptly closed and the sale of liquor was prohibited until after daylight.

til after daylight.

The holiday crowds of yesterday had dispersed and the city was very quiet and orderly today. All of the dangerous walls that stand are to be thrown down and the streets now obstructed with fallen brick will be cleaned up.

Patterson, N. J., Feb. 10.—Latest—The work of removing the debris from yesterday's fire began today. Mayor Wincliffe declined outside aid and residents contributed ten times as much as was needed to care for the hundreds made homeless. The concerns burned out will begin the work of rebuilding as soon as the debris is cleared away. The loss is estimated at eight millions. Four hundred families were burned out and two hundred dwellings destroyed. The troops are holding the mob under absolute quietness. The ruins of the First National bank having been cooled off, workmen removed from the debris all the books and between two and three millions in cash securities were found uninjured and were carted away, guarded by soldiers.

JOSH ASHLEY'S GENIUS.

He "Hit" The Charleston Show Last Week in All His Rusticity.

[Charleston Post, 7th.]

There is a warm child of nature in Charleston today. Citizen Josh, surnamed Ashley, has come to town. If there be any among us so benighted as to know not the identity of Josh Ashley, it is proper to inform him that Josh is a member of the legislature from Anderson county, a successful farmer and the dispenser of a line of diction which makes up in pith what it lacks in polish.

Josh Ashley is a unique character. The flavor of the soil permeates his rhetoric; the twang of the wood lands pervades his parts of speech and throttles English grammar. He is not a handsome man; nor is he ugly enough to hurt. He wears a florid face and a wool hat. His hair and mustache are red. His mouth is too numerous to mention. He has a magnificent set of teeth which have contributed no little to his fame. He is a trifle below the average height, but above it in weight. His neck is muscular and thick, indicating strength and life everlasting. His hands are large, hairy and freckled, and he has a grip that would make most men curl up like a watch spring. Josh is now about 45 years old, but he is as virile as a young Hercules. He was found in the wilderness near Honea Path, Anderson county, in 1890, by B. R. Tillman and he speedily developed an amazing thirst for politics.

In those days came Benjamin Ryan Tillman, a plain farmer from Edgefield, preaching the gospel of retrenchment and reform. A hot political revival followed. Josh Ashley was one of the first and most enthusiastic converts. He thought Ben Tillman was the personification of probity and a leader from Lead ersville. Tillman couldn't make a speech within fifteen miles of Honea Path without Josh Ashley granting the occasion with his presence. And when Benjamin began to fry the conservatives in language chaste and seemly, Citizen Josh could be heard shouting above the tumult: "Hit 'em agin, Guvner; dats de God's truf."

And yet, Josh owes his first term in the legislature to the vote of the conservatives in Anderson county. It was done for a joke. Tillman had the majority of the sons of toil by the scruff of the neck. The chances for a conservative candidate were not visible to the unclothed eye, as the modest spinster expressed it. It was then that Josh Ashley "lowed" he'd run for the legislature. At that time Josh could neither read nor write. For that reason the Tillmanites did not receive the announcement of his candidacy with enthusiasm. One of them twitted him in this wise:

"Yon go to the legislature, Josh," he exclaimed with a laugh: "Why you can't write your name."

"I knowed that without you telling me," retorted Josh. "And you kin go to an Anderson bank and

write your name on a note and it won't be with five cents; but if I put my mark on it you kin get all the money you want." And this was true.

But the conservatives resolved to vote for Josh. They had no candidates of their own, so they played him to win since his election would be a joke on the Tillmanites and add to the glory and renown of their defeat to the legislature. When the votes were counted Josh was "it." Some few Tillmanites could not help supporting him for wool hat and one gallus reasons, and this, with the conservative vote, enabled Josh to harpoon victory. That was in 1892 and since then, excepting one term, Citizen Josh Ashley has been a member of the "legislatur," and his admirers say he can make laws as easy as he can break them.

When Josh rears up on the floor of the House to do a few Demosthenian stunts he ladles out an assortment of talk that is not infrequently crowded with hard, horse sense. What he knows about political economy and the science of government signifies nothing, but in dealing with practical propositions that are not beyond his ken Josh can make a "spooch" that is anything else but flat, stale and unprofitable.

In the fullness of time Josh's affection for Benjamin R. Tillman began to suffer for lack of proper nourishment. The Edgefield politician was comfortably ensconced in the U. S. Senate and he began to give Josh cold and repellent glances. The latter recalled the many golden promises that Benjamin had made and did not hesitate to rebuke him for his deeds of omission. But Tillman was too wise to monkey with Josh; he merely gave him the indifferent eye and the inattentive ear. Josh "lowed" he'd play another favorite. When the McLaurin bandwagon came rattling down the pike of opportunity, Josh flagged it and fought his way to a front seat. And now he says he is 'jest as happy as a big sunflower that nods and shines in the breezes."

In Anderson county Josh Ashley is regarded as a formidable proposition in a fist-cuff. He is chiefly feared since when he has a fight on his hands he manifests an alarming tendency to bite. And if Josh's powerful jaws were to fasten on some important part of a man's anatomy it would probably mean a case for the coroner.

Back in the early 90's Josh Ashley and J. L. Farmer, of Anderson clashed on a train while enroute home from Greenville, where a big political pow wow had been held. Farmer was an anti Tillmanite and was known to be not afraid of anything human or otherwise. Josh was lusty for trouble; Farmer was in a mood to deal out sudden death to anybody who craved it. Josh tackled him; they hitched. Fight? Very much so, thank you. Above the roar of the train and the noise of the combat Josh's teeth as he strove to clamp down on his opponent's ear or nose. It was even reported that Josh's teeth were seen to strike fire, but this story could not be verified. Anyhow, Farmer was unable to take care of himself till passengers intervened and stopped the battle. However, it was a great scuffle, one of the many in which Josh has played a star role.

This is not Josh Ashley's first trip to Charleston. He was here several years ago with a number of members of the legislature, and he had at least one unhappy experience. The party were taken for a sail around the harbor. Josh got seasick. When the boat returned to the wharf and Josh found himself on terra firma he was asked how he enjoyed the sail.

"Hit was alright," he replied, weakly; "but, my God, how I did fling up."

Josh recently announced himself a candidate for the State Senate. He will make a hot canvass of his county and astonish the "dear people" with linguistic fire works.

Fortunately for the devil, it's a man's soul he wants to buy, and not his dog.

A PERFECT SUCCESS.

What a Visitor to the South Carolina Inter-State and West Indian Exposition, Charleston, Has to Say About It.

A recent visit to the Exposition, Charleston, enables me to say that the entire show is a perfect success. The State exhibit in the State building is superb, as well as the various county exhibits in the same building, all are au fait in every particular, and is well worth seeing no matter what the cost, and is a schooling to our people, especially the young people.

Mr. A. W. Love, the superintendent of the State building and his assistants, Messrs. Mills and Banks, will take pleasure in showing visitors all matters of interest in the State building, and other information that may prove of interest to them.

Far off Oregon, Louisiana and Florida whose exhibits are in the annex to the State building, and are especially interesting. Oregon shows the trunk of a tree that is at least twenty feet in circumference, and a square piece of timber, over seventy feet long and three feet square! Besides the woods and min-als are in great abundance, fish, coal, the cereals, etc.

Louisiana makes a fine exhibit of the products of that State—sugar, rice, tobacco, cotton, hemp, &c.

Our State Geologist, Mr. Earle Sloan, has an exceptionally fine display of minerals, and granite for building purposes of a superior quality.

The Cotton Palace, the U. S. display, Commerce, Art, the Woman's Department, Maryland, Machinery, all are intensely interesting and will require days to do justice to these departments alone.

The exposition grounds are beautifully laid off in plots where evergreens are planted with roses and pansies growing, and will, by the middle of March or first of April, prove a wonder to visitors, when in bloom; besides this beautiful show a few miles up the Ashley river, is situated Magnolia or Drayton's garden—a most lovely place to visit, the home of the Agulies, where perhaps one hundred or more colors and shades, are to be seen—an elysian on earth! The ladies should not fail to see these beautiful grounds, and there drink in the beauties of nature.

Those who do not desire to stop at the many first-class hotels in Charleston, can, by writing to the many boarding houses in the city secure comfortable quarters and at a moderate rate. Among the number is Mrs. C. S. Smith, 178 west end of Wentworth street, who is ready and willing to do the right thing for all. It is necessary to engage quarters in advance. The Exposition grounds can be reached by the street cars for five cents from any point in the city, taking the precaution to get a transfer ticket where your line ceases.

Admission to the grounds 50c. Dinner can be had on the grounds.

The midway is very attractive. Here people from everywhere are to be seen, all engaged in selling the various kinds of trinkets peculiar to the section of the world of which the vendors are natives. The Battle of Manasses. The Esquimo's and their performances, the noted Jim Key the educated horse, the riding of camels and an elephant are among the attractions of the midway.

Taking the whole show from the start to finish, it will gratify and please everybody, and should be visited by all our people.

The people of Charleston deserve great credit for the pluck and energy displayed by them in getting up so wonderful a show, and it deserves patronage from all sections, especially so from South Carolina.

THOS. W. HOLLOWAY.
Pomaria, Feb. 10, 1902.

Thousands Sent Into Exile.

Every year a large number of poor sufferers whose lungs are sore and racked with coughs are urged to go to another climate. But this is costly and not always sure. Don't be an exile when Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption will cure you at home. It's the most infallible medicine for Coughs, Colds, and all Throat and Lung diseases on earth. The first dose brings relief. Astounding cures result from persistent use. Trial bottle free at all druggists. Price 50c and \$1.00.